

Applicant: McCartney, James I.
Serial No.: 10/604,215
Page 2

Amendments to the Claims:

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A high volume mailing error detection system for processing a mail piece, the mail piece having associated therewith mail piece bar code information, the system comprising:

database with names, addresses and bar codes to be printed on mail pieces;

printer connected to said database for printing a name, address and bar code on each mail piece;

optical detector for obtaining an image of the mail piece information after printing the name, address and bar code on each mail piece;

a mail piece mover for moving bulk mail including the mail piece through the system;
and

means for comparing the bar code image with a said database after each mail piece has been printed with a name, address and bar code for detecting bar code errors concerning the mail piece bar code information, wherein the mail piece information includes a bar code and the database comprises a data set of post office physical specifications, where the post office specifications include specifications regarding the legibility of bar codes;

means for generating a sampling error report; and

means for providing certification of the sampling comparisons and error rate for all functions base upon the sampling error report.

Applicant: McCartney, James I.
Serial No.: 10/604,215
Page 3

2. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 1, wherein said printer includes a printer head and the database comprises a data set of data sent to a said printer head, wherein the printer head placed at least a portion of the mail piece information on the mail piece.

3. (Cancelled)

4. (Currently Amended) The system of claim ~~3~~1, wherein the database further comprises an updated residency database.

5. (Cancelled)

6. (Cancelled)

7. (Currently Amended) A large volume error detection mailing system for sampling bar code errors in a piece of mail, the mail piece having associated therewith mail piece bar code information, the system comprising:

a database with names, addresses and bar codes to be printed on mail pieces;

a printer connected to said database for printing a name, address and bar code on each mail piece;

an optical image ~~detection~~ detector for capturing an image of the mail piece bar code information after each mail piece is printed;

Applicant: McCartney, James I.
Serial No.: 10/604,215
Page 4

a bulk mail mover for moving the piece of mail at least partway through the system; ~~and~~
means for comparing the bar code image to ~~at least one~~ said database after the name,
address and bar code is printed on the mail piece, including:

data correlated to the bar code information on the piece of mail; and
data corresponding to post office bar code specifications for a piece of mail,
where the post office specifications include specifications regarding the legibility
of bar codes;

means for generating a sampling error report; and

means for certification of the sampling comparisons and error rate for all functions base
upon the sampling error report.

8. (Currently Amended) A method for the in-house bar code error detection of a
large volume of mail, comprising the steps of:

providing a database with names, addresses and bar codes for printing on mail pieces and
post office bar code specifications;

printing a name, address, and bar code on each mail piece;

obtaining bar code data associated with a piece of mail;

performing an error detection check on the mail piece bar code data, where the step of
performing an error detection check includes the additional steps of

comparing the optically captured image to said post office bar code specifications;

and

Applicant: McCartney, James I.
Serial No.: 10/604,215
Page 5

comparing the optical bar code image to the bar code information intended to be printed on the piece of mail after the name, address and bar code is printed on each mail piece;

generating an error sampling report including an error rate relating to the step of performing bar code error detection check; and

certifying the steps of comparing and the error rate based on the sampling report.

9. (Original) The method of claim 8, wherein the error detection report allows the user of the method to bypass at least a portion of the post office mail piece error detection methods.

10. (Original) The method of claim 8, wherein the step of obtaining data includes the step of optically obtaining an image of the address data.

11. (Cancelled)

12. (Original) The method of claim 8, further comprising the step of activating an alarm when the mail piece fails the error detection check.

13. (Original) The method of claim 8, further comprising the step of activating an alarm when inaccuracy of the information on a plurality of mail pieces reaches a predetermined

number.

14. (Original) The method of claim 13, wherein the alarm is audible.

15. (Currently Amended) A system for accurately reading an image and data associated with a piece of mail, comprising:

a computer having an original database for printing information on a piece of mail;

a printer for printing the information on a piece of mail using the original database;

a reader of an image of the information printed on the piece of mail;

means for comparing the image obtained from the reader with the original database and a second database after printing said mail piece;

means for generating a sampling error report; and

certification of the sampling comparisons and error rate for all functions base upon the sampling error report..

16. (Original) The system of claim 15, wherein the second database includes post office physical specifications.

17. (Original) The system of claim 15, wherein the second database includes updated residency information from the post office.

18. (Original) The system of claim 15, further comprising a strobe light for

Applicant: McCartney, James I.
Serial No.: 10/604,215
Page 7

illuminating the piece of mail for the reader.

19. (Original) The system of claim 18, wherein the strobe light has a variable frequency strobe.

20. (New) The method as in claim 8, including the step of:
upon detecting an erroneous mail piece, reprinting the correct information on a
new mail piece.